



# Convection Initiation – Nowcasting by data fusion and its Verification

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and Arnold Tafferner<sup>1</sup>**

**ECSS 2011 - 6th European Conference on Severe Storms  
Palma de Mallorca, Spain, 3-7 October 2011**



Deutsches Zentrum  
für Luft- und Raumfahrt e.V.  
in der Helmholtz-Gemeinschaft

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# Outline

Motivation & general idea

Cb-TRAM (Cumulonimbus TRacking And Monitoring)

CI-Verification

Additional data sources



# Motivation

Aviation purposes

Cb-TRAM as basic tool

Adding non-satellite fields for further development



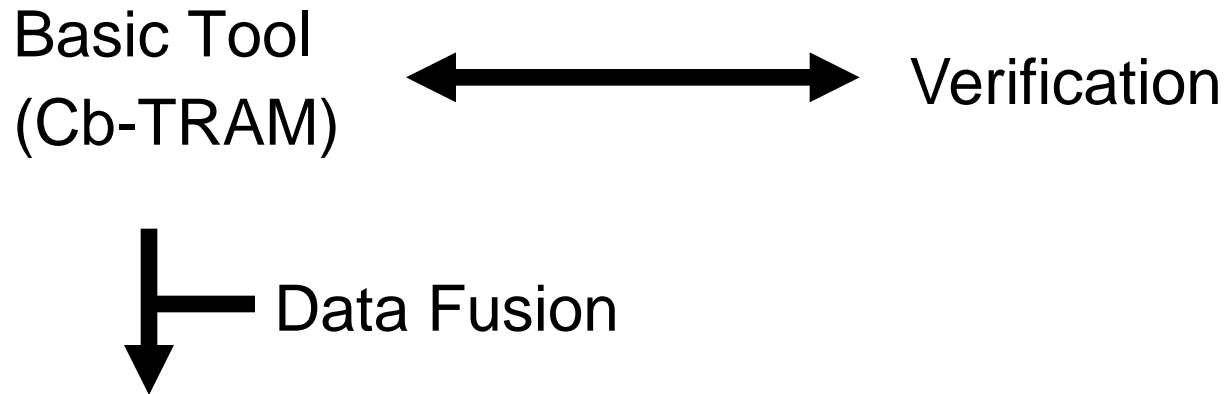
# General idea

Basic Tool  
(Cb-TRAM)

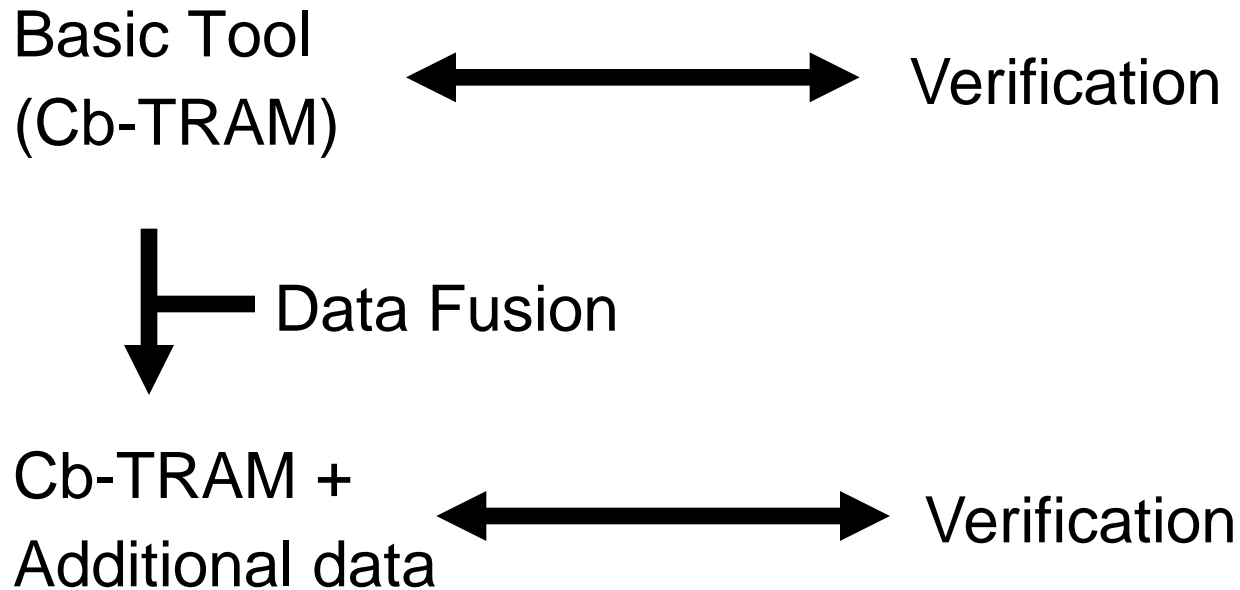


Verification

# General idea



# General idea



# General idea

Basic Tool  
(Cb-TRAM) ↔ Verification



Cb-TRAM +  
Additional data ↔ Verification

CI-NOW – a CI detection and nowcasting tool

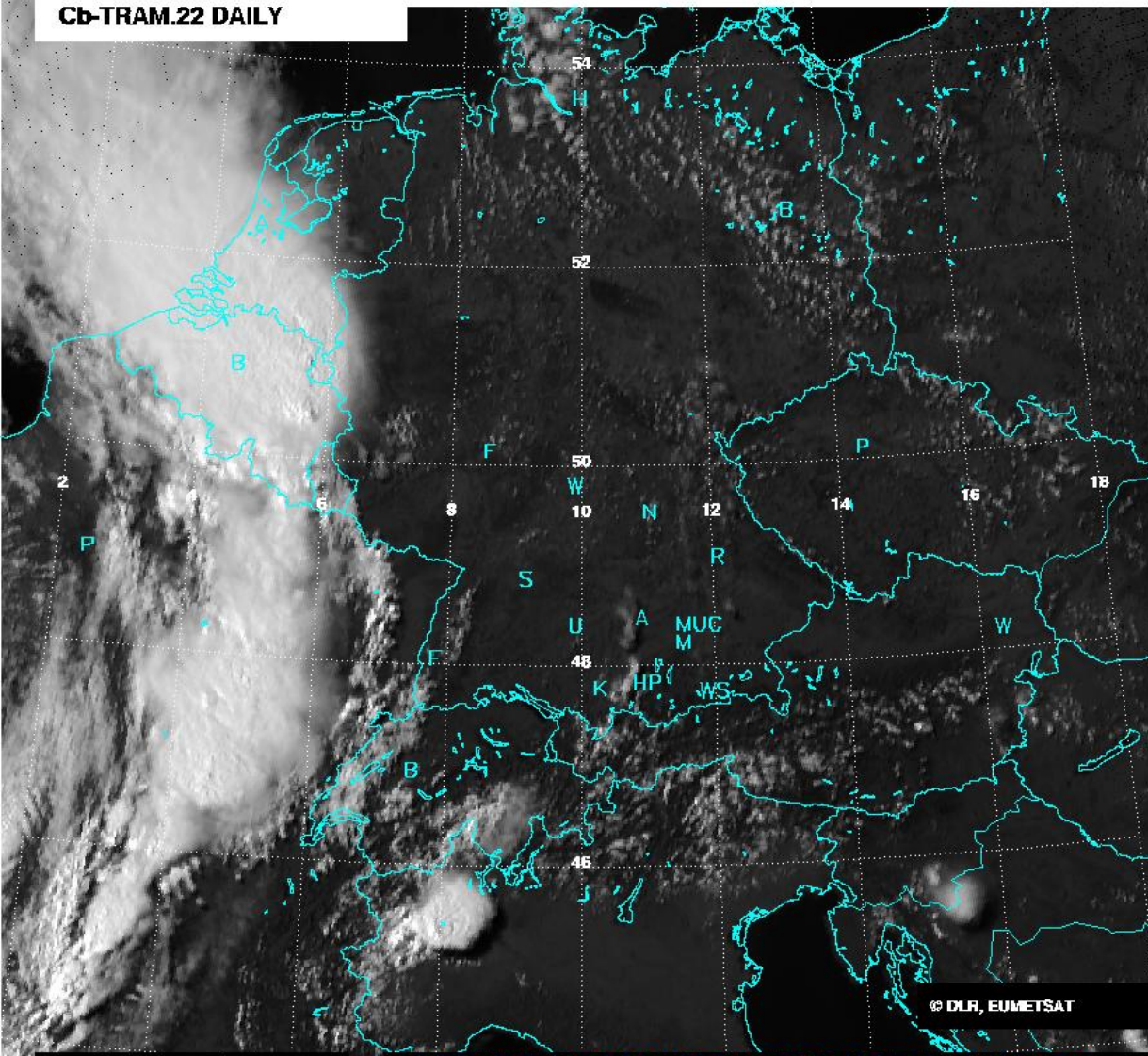


# Cb-TRAM - Cumulonimbbus TRacking And Monitoring

Cb-TRAM

14.07.2010 15:25 UTC Meteosat9 HRV

Cb-TRAM.22 DAILY



parallax corrected

EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCT! NOT FOR OPERATIONAL USE!

Slide 8

ECSS 2011 > Dennis Stich > 7 October 2011

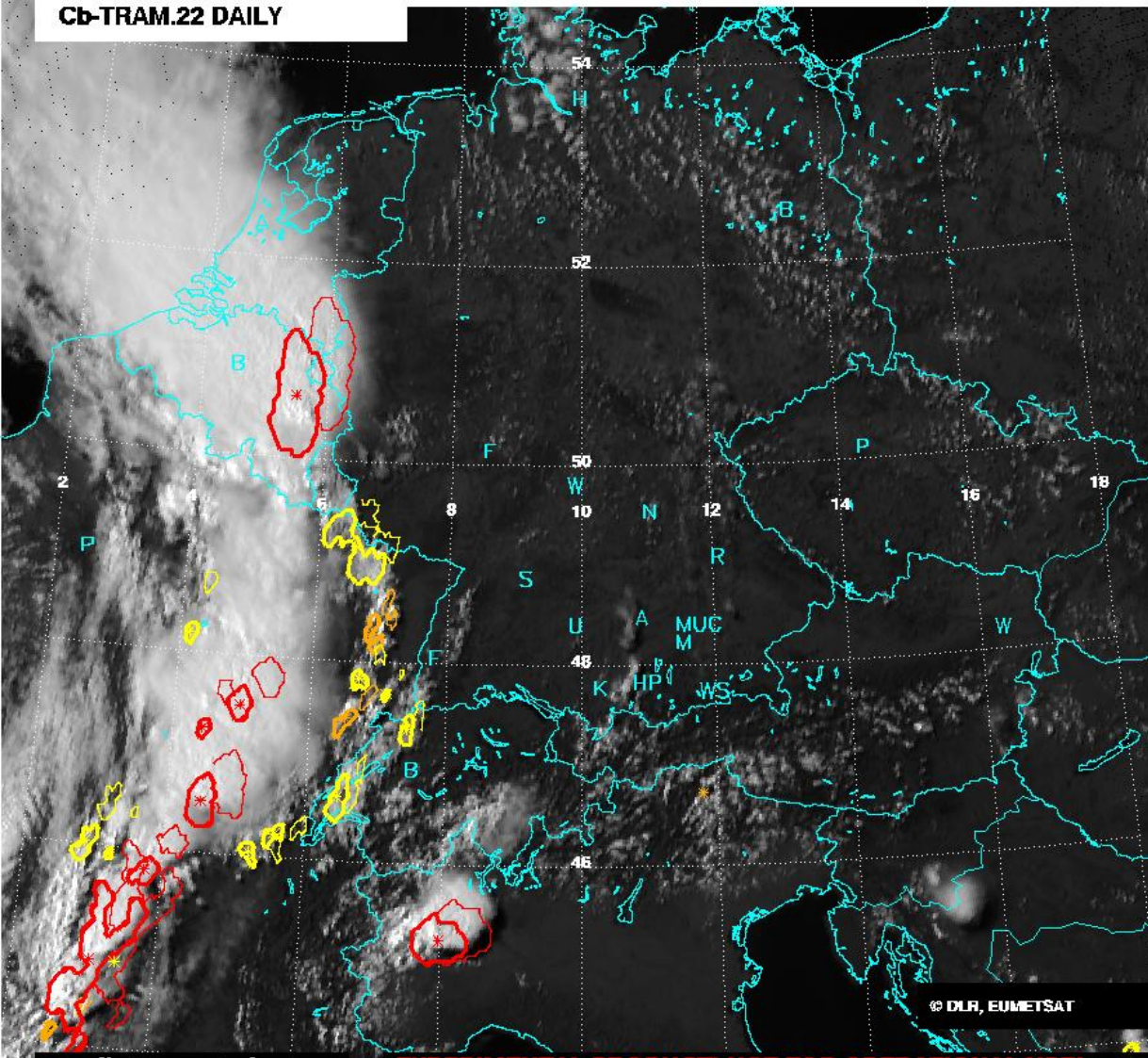


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14.07.2010 15:25 UTC Meteosat9 HRV

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EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCT! NOT FOR OPERATIONAL USE!

Used MSG (rapidscan) data:

WV 6.2

IR 10.8

IR 12.0

HRV

Detection stages:

**1: Convection Initiation (CI)**

development in HRV

IR 10.8 cooling

**2: Rapid development**

WV 6.2 rapid cooling

(> 1K/15min)

**3: Mature storms**

T 6.2 - T 10.8

HRV texture

Extrapolation up to 60 min  
(here 30 minute nowcast plotted)

Description: Zinner et al., 2008

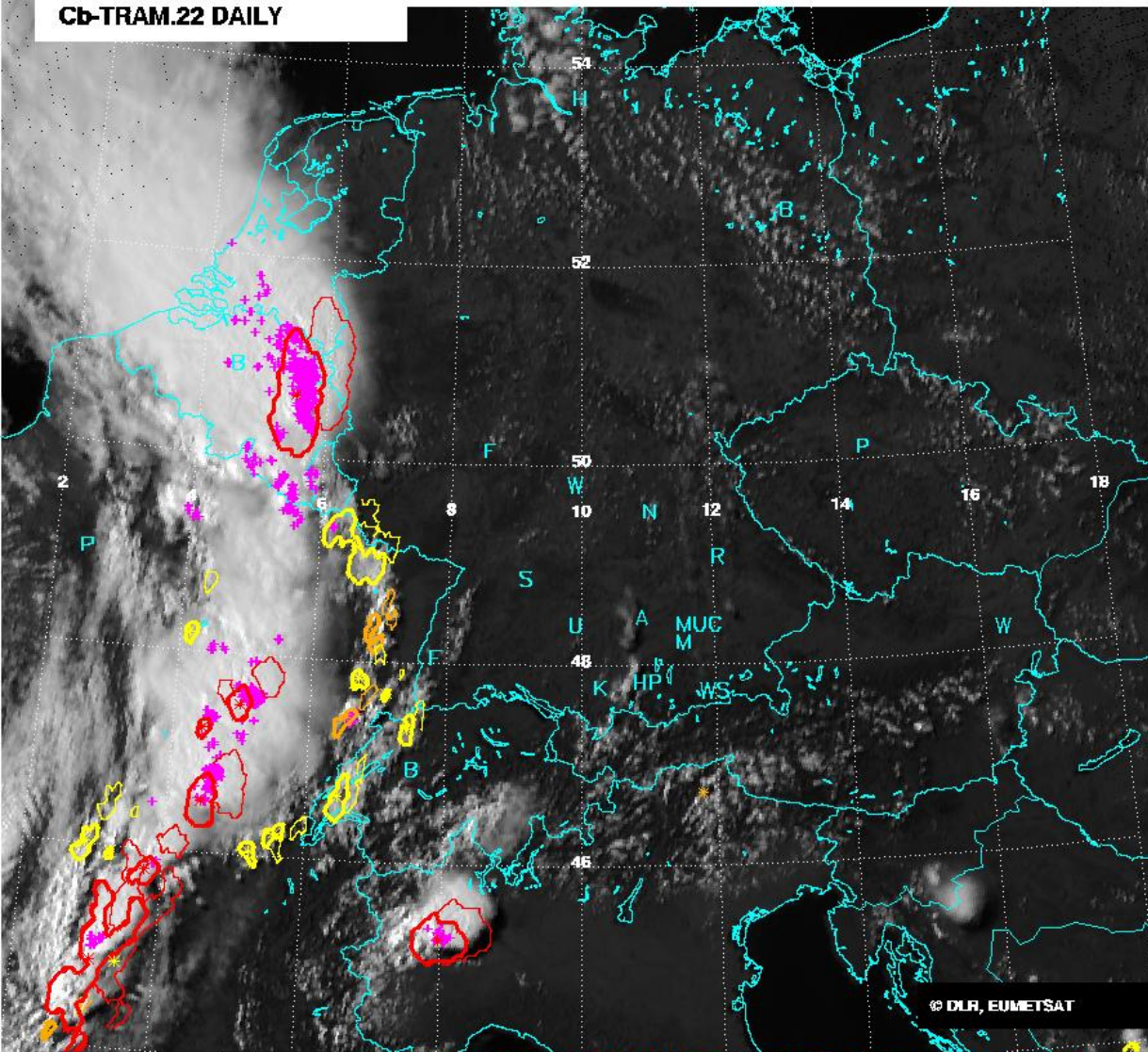


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HRV texture

**Lightning (LINET)**

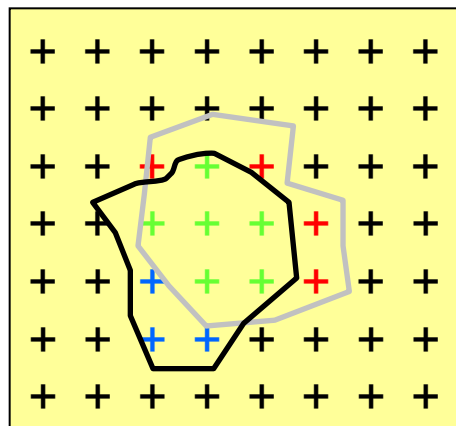
Extrapolation up to 60 min  
(here 30 minute nowcast plotted)

Description: Zinner et al., 2008

# CI-Verification

Contingency table			
		Observed	
Forecast		yes	no
	yes	hit	false alarm
	no	miss	correct negative

Cb-TRAM analysis  
used for comparison  
with the 15, 30, 45,  
and 60 minutes CI-  
stage nowcasts



Pixel based

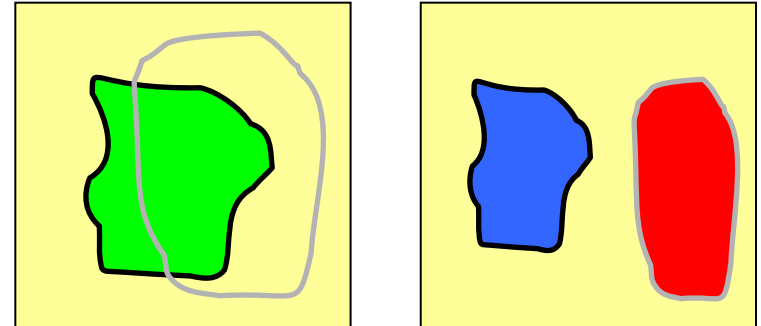
Requires perfect  
matching!



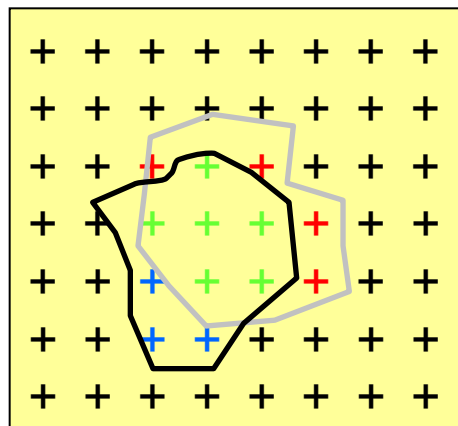
# CI-Verification

Contingency table			
		Observed	
Forecast		yes	no
	yes	hit	false alarm
	no	miss	correct negative

## Object based



double penalty problem



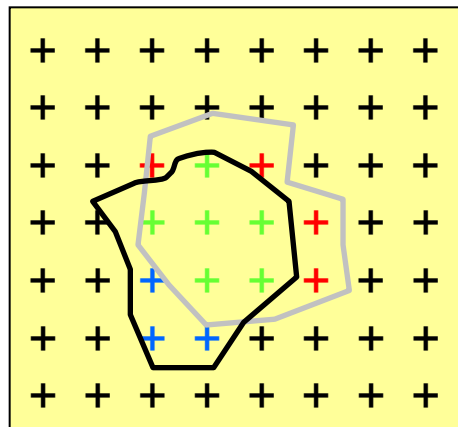
## Pixel based

Requires perfect matching!



# CI-Verification

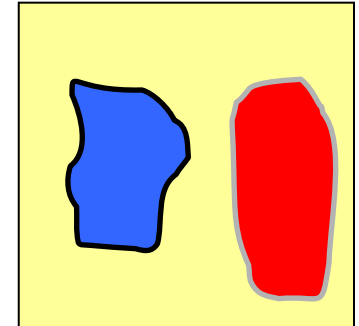
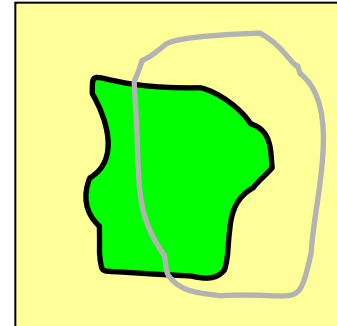
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Pixel based

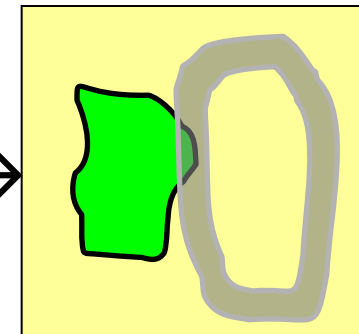
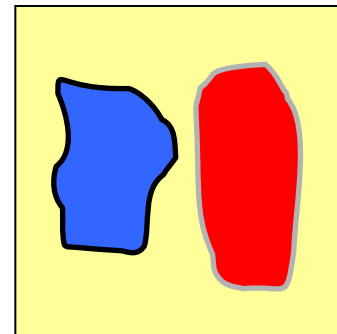
Requires perfect matching!

Object based



double penalty problem

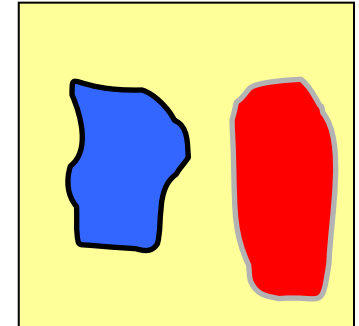
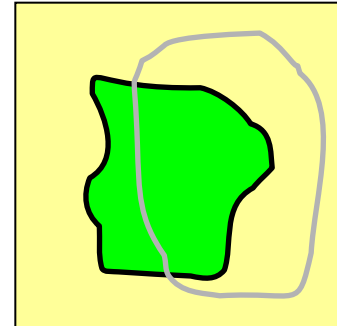
Fuzzy + Object based



# CI-Verification

Contingency table			
		Observed	
Forecast		yes	no
	yes	hit	false alarm
	no	miss	correct negative

## Object based





# CI-Verification

Different versions shown:

Object based  
with Cb stage 1 analysis objects  
for the nowcast overlap

Developing Object based  
without Cb stage 1 analysis  
objects for the nowcast overlap  
→ just developing cells

Results for the summer 2009, 15 May to 31 August

	15 min	30 min	acc 15-60 min
Object based POD	0,5919	0,4212	0,4093
Object based FAR	0,6109	0,7545	0,5448
Dev Object POD	0,2281	0,1992	0,1697
Dev Object FAR	0,8853	0,8841	0,8176

$POD = hits / (hits + misses)$

$FAR = false\ alarms / (hits + false\ alarms)$

$CSI = hits / (hits + misses + false\ alarms)$



# Additional data sources

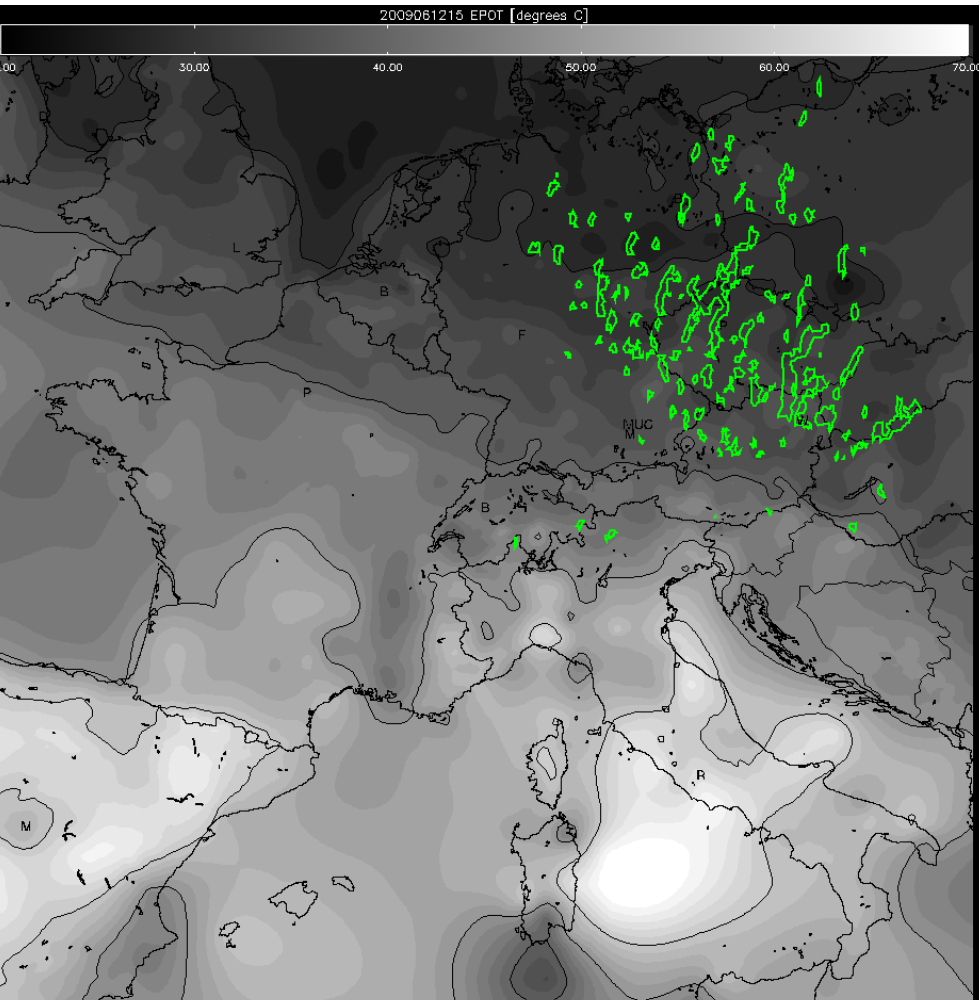
Testing the additional information provided by:

- more satellite channels (SATCAST IFs)
- VERA data (e.g. MFC, equivalent potential temperature)
- COSMO-EU data (e.g. updraft, an instability measure)
- COSMO-DE data (e.g. thunderstorm probability)
- LINET data

# Vienna Enhanced Resolution Analysis

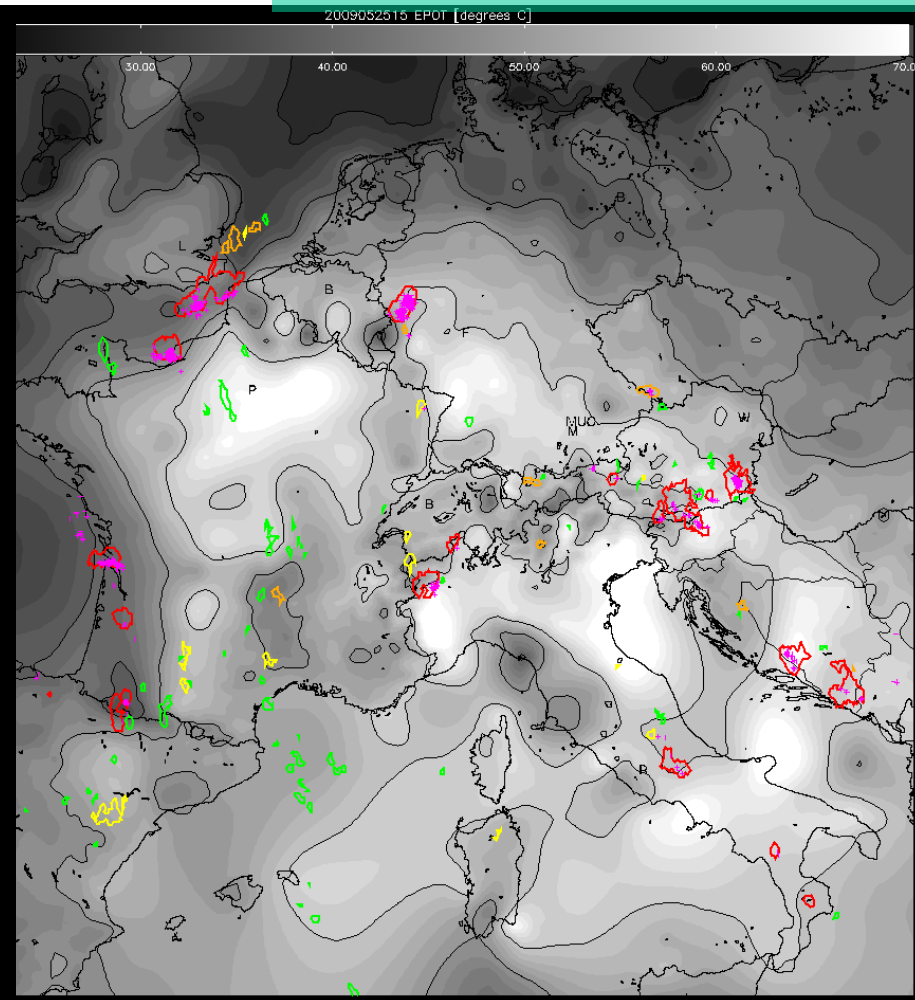
More information and  
references:

[www.univie.ac.at/amk/vera/](http://www.univie.ac.at/amk/vera/)



EPOT June 12 2009 15 UTC

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EPOT May 25 2009 15 UTC

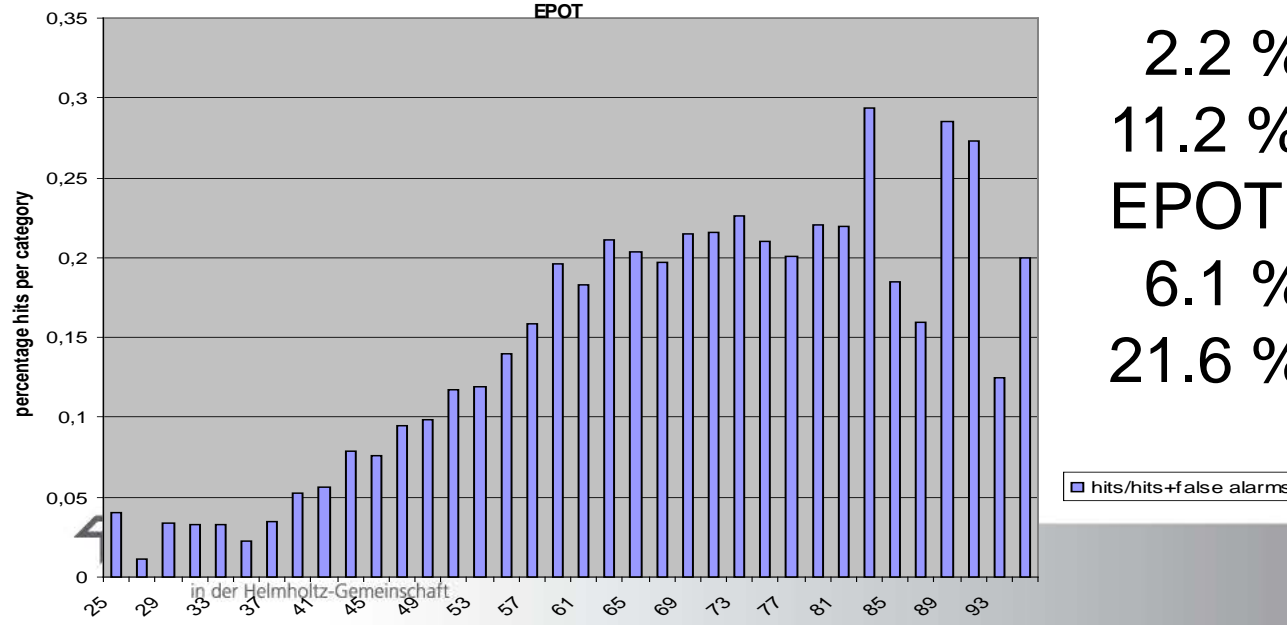
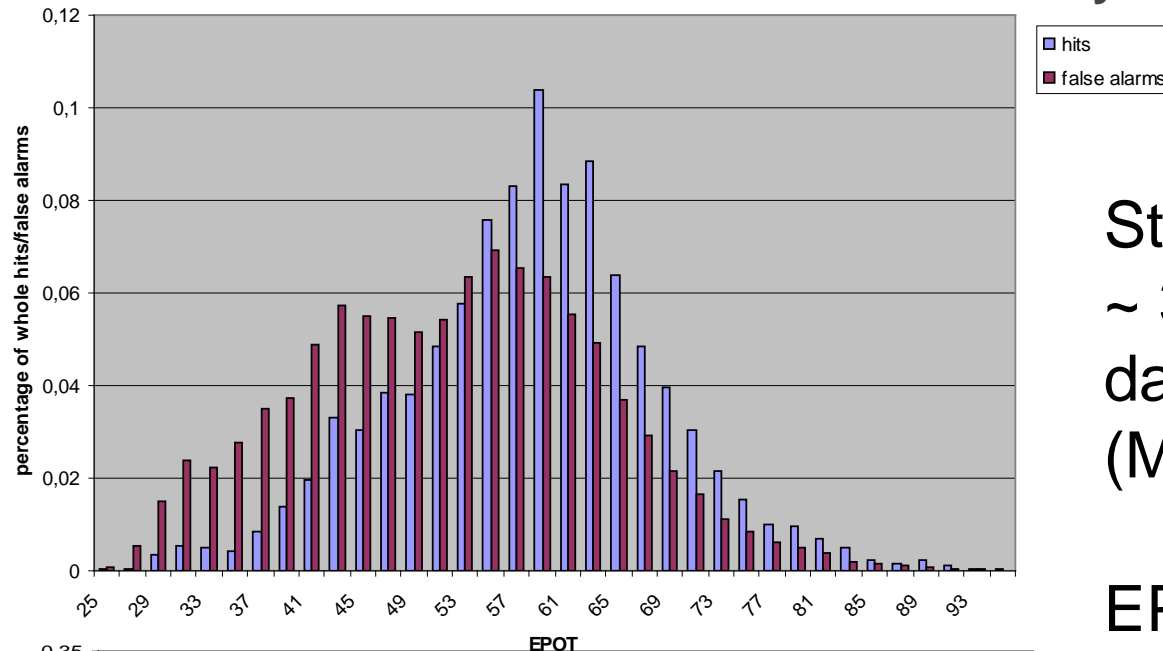
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# Vienna Enhanced Resolution Analysis

More information and references:

[www.univie.ac.at/amk/vera/](http://www.univie.ac.at/amk/vera/)

Statistics calculated for  
~ 35.000 CI cells over 87  
days in summer 2009  
(May 15 - 31 August)



EPOT < 36 °:

2.2 % of all hits

11.2 % of all false alarms

EPOT < 41 °:

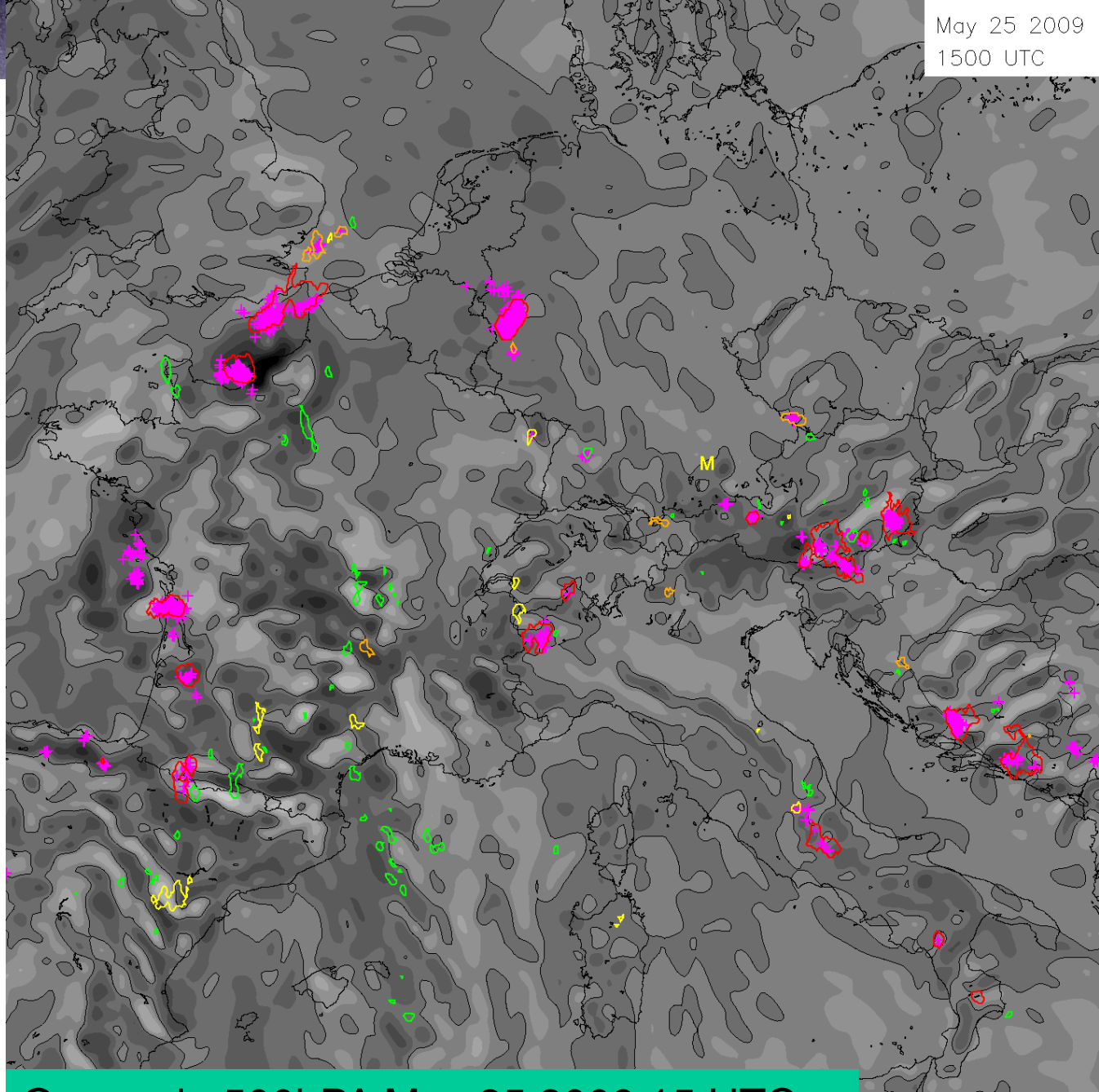
6.1 % of all hits

21.6 % of all false alarms

# COSMO-EU

Omega in 500 hPa:

Dark shading  
represents updraft  
areas, light shading  
downdraft areas



# VERA & COSMO\_EU

First Results for Combinations:

Percentage of CI cells filtered with the additional data sources

	$36^\circ < \text{Epot} < 41^\circ$	false alarms	hits
$\text{Epot} < 36^\circ$		11.2 %	2.2 %
$\text{Epot} < 36^\circ$	$\text{MFD} > 0$	16.0 %	3.5 %
$\text{Epot} < 36^\circ$	$\omega_{500} > 6$	14.5 %	3.0 %
$\text{Epot} < 36^\circ$	$\omega_{400-600} > 0$	14.0 %	3.0 %
$\text{Epot} < 36^\circ$	$\omega_{500} > 0 \ \& \ \text{MFD} > 0$	13.7 %	2.9 %
$\text{Epot} < 36^\circ$	$\omega_{400-600} > 0 \ \& \ \text{MFD} > 0$	12.5 %	2.5 %

$[\text{MFD}] = 10^{-4} \text{ g}/(\text{kg s}) \ \& \ [\omega] = \text{hPa/h}$





# Additional data sources

Testing the additional information provided by:

- more satellite channels (SATCAST IFs)
- VERA data (e.g. MFC, equivalent potential temperature)
- COSMO-EU data (e.g. updraft, an instability measure)

**NEXT STEPS:**

- COSMO-DE data (e.g. thunderstorm probability)
- LINET data

Data fusion (e.g. fuzzy logic)

Verify the abilities for the different products and their fusion

# Thank you for your attention! Questions?

contact: [dennis.stich@dlr.de](mailto:dennis.stich@dlr.de)

